



The Pipeline

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Inside this Issue:

**Secretary To Hold
Teleconferences**

**Recipients of ACE and
ERA Awards Selected**

**Heating Bill Costs Soar:
Communities Take Action**

**CFC Kicks off March of
Dimes for 2001**

**Mark Neff Named Director
for Division of Quality
Development**

Sick Leave Request



Secretary To Hold Teleconferences



To keep all CFC employees updated regarding the Cabinet's revision of its strategic plan, Secretary Viola Miller will discuss the draft

goals and objectives during teleconferences March 8 and 9. The sessions will be held from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. and from 11 a.m. to noon both days. Prior to the teleconferences, copies of the draft will be made available to staff.

Employee input has been valuable and incorporated thus far in the strategic plan revision process. The finalized version of the Cabinet's Vision, Mission and Values was published Jan. 12, 2000 in "The Pipeline." All Cabinet personnel are encouraged to participate in the interactive sessions which will be carried on KET's Star Channel. For further information regarding the site nearest you, call Bruce Johnson or Christy Speller at (859) 622-6579 or (859) 622-8043.

Recipients of ACE and ERA Awards Selected

Recipients of CFC's ACE and ERA Awards for February 2001 have been determined, and supervisors of all recipients in Quality Central have been notified. A list of award recipients is not yet available for publication, but look for it in a future issue of *Pipeline*, which will publish a list of Quality Central staff, and *CFC Online*, which will publish a list of all CFC recipients by region. Both publications will also include a brief summary of each recipient's nomination and why he or she was selected for an award. The awards are effective Feb. 16.

Heating Bill Costs Soar: Communities Take Action

*By: Shannon Thomas,
CFC Communications Intern*

Large doses of "winter blues" have been distributed among Kentuckians this season, and this year it's not just "cabin fever" that has everyone in stir; it's the cost of heating bills. Some low-income families have had no other choice but to turn to government or community aid to help pay the bills.

Project WARM is one way our residents have been receiving help. Frank Schwartz, of Project WARM in Louisville says that the program assists the low-income and elderly people with heating bills. "I got a call from an 89-year-old lady the other day," recalls Schwartz. "She said she was too proud to be on welfare, but she had to have help on her heating bill." Schwartz says the program used to be nonprofit and volunteer-based, but now they also have paid staff. The paid staff is important, because they have the know-how for insulating homes. He explains, "We went from a simple, volunteer organization, to hiring staff people. We do workshops for citizens, and we demonstrate how to use caulking, plastic and insulation to keep homes warm." The workshops also teach good energy management techniques.

Project WARM employees work hand in hand with the Cabinet's Family Resource and Youth Service Centers (FRYSCs) to help with the promotion of their workshops and volunteer opportunities.

CFS Focus Available Online – Updated Link

The Comprehensive Family Services newsletter, CFS Focus, is available online at:
<http://cfc.state.ky.us/cfsnews/focus.htm>



CFC Kicks off March of Dimes for 2001

By Patricia Boler, CFC Communications

It's the time of year when we all come together for the March of Dimes. With our support, the March of Dimes continues research, pre-term prevention education, and community programs that increase prenatal care for women who might not otherwise get it.

CFC's March of Dimes kickoff will be in the CHR Building cafeteria on March 1 at 11:30. This will be the first time CFC has hosted a kickoff and we hope everyone will participate.

CFC has a March of Dimes ambassador child, another first for our cabinet this year. Her name is Payton Knox. Payton, the granddaughter of Ellen Downey of Disability Determinations, was born prematurely, weighing only 2 pounds, 6 ounces.

There are several ways employees can support the March of Dimes. Fund-raising items such as March of Dimes "shoes" and Home Interiors® candles are available. Several fund-raising activities will be held from now until the State Walk. Employees may sign up to walk on April 6 with their office March of Dimes volunteer coordinator. All fund-raiser participants will be entered in a drawing for a quilt, hand made by CFC's own Charlene Nation of Employee Services.

Charlene is also the Cabinet coordinator for the March of Dimes. If you have questions or would like to know who your office coordinator is, call her at 564-7770.

This year our goal is \$1,800. We also have a goal of 50 walkers for the WalkAmerica State Walk on April 6. Last year, we raised \$1,629 and 10

walkers participated in the State Walk. Because we are the Cabinet for Families and Children, we should all take this opportunity to support such a special cause - premature babies.

Schedule of events:

March 5-9: Prettiest baby contest - submit YOUR picture to raise money

March 12-16: Silent Auction

March 21: Blues Jeans for Babies

March 26-30: Easter Basket Sale

Mark Neff Named Director for Division of Quality Development

By Kerry L. McKinney, Office of Performance Enhancement intern and Mark Neff, Office of Performance Enhancement

Mark Neff's customary brisk pace through the hallways of Quality Central may quicken now that he has been named director of the Division of Quality Development, Office of Performance Enhancement (OPE).

The Division of Quality Development monitors and evaluates the Cabinet for Families and Children's programs and services. The Quality Control Branch and Quality Initiatives Branch are the division's backbone.

The Quality Control Branch, which consists of the Public Assistance Review and Food Stamp Review sections, performs federally mandated quality control (QC) for the Medical Assistance and Food Stamps programs. QC continuously monitors the Kentucky Automated Management and Eligibility System (KAMES) for statistics on the Food Stamp Program, Medical Assistance Program, and the Kentucky Transitional Assistance Program (K-TAP). The branch annually performs more than 5,000 reviews, which form the basis for enhanced funding and fiscal sanctions.

The Quality Initiative Branch, consisting of the Program Integrity and Quality Assurance sections, develops management evaluation format procedures and sets statewide review schedules. The Branch strives to assure

that clients of the Department of Community Based Services (DCBS) receive quality services in an efficient and cost-effective manner.

Mark has been with the Cabinet for Families and Children since 1999 as Principal Assistant to OPE Executive Director Susie Schaaf. For the past 11 months, he also served as acting manager of the Administrative Hearings Branch, which moderates disputes regarding public assistance and social services.

Mark said he has benefited from Everyone A Leader and the Continuous Quality Initiative. For example, he said, staff from throughout the Cabinet helped make fundamental changes in the Hearings Branch while he was its acting manager.

In his new role, Mark will seek opportunities to partner with DCBS developing and evaluating Comprehensive Family Services.

As director of Quality Development, Mark succeeds Nancy Shelton, who has accepted a position as a principal assistant II in the Ombudsman's Office.

Mark's previous jobs include administrative assistant to the governor, director of communication in the Kentucky Commerce Cabinet and director of neighborhood and community support in Jefferson County. He also worked as a public affairs specialist at Toyota Motor Manufacturing, USA, where he first learned about quality development strategies and cultural diversity in the workplace.

Mark says he is lucky to be joining a knowledgeable, talented team that will work hard to make sure all Kentucky's families and children receive the highest quality services.

Sick Leave Request

Earl T. Gay of the Tourism Development Cabinet, Department of Travel, is in need of donated sick leave. To donate leave, contact Cheryl Gay at 564-1205 x 2147.